

**From:** Morning Consult [reply@em.morningconsult.com]  
**Sent:** 4/24/2020 12:23:58 PM  
**To:** Walker, Mary [walker.mary@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Morning Consult Washington: Trump Suggests Injecting Disinfectant as Coronavirus Cure, Prompting Backlash

Title



# WASHINGTON

By [Eli Yokley](#)

## Top Stories

- Medical experts and a company that produces disinfectant products warned Americans not to ingest bleach and household disinfectant after President Donald Trump raised the idea of injecting them into humans to fight coronavirus. Trump's comments came at a White House briefing in which Homeland Security Under Secretary for Science and Technology Bill Bryan gave a presentation about how bleach and isopropyl alcohol, as well as sunlight, can kill the virus quickly on surfaces. ([Bloomberg](#))
- The House Energy and Commerce health subcommittee plans to hold hearings to probe the departure of Rick Bright, who said he was removed from his role leading the government agency helping develop a COVID-19 vaccine after he pressed for rigorous testing of drugs suggested by Trump as potential treatments for the virus. Lawyers for the former director of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority have accused Department Health and Human Services officials of making "demonstrably false" statements about Bright's tenure, and plan to file federal whistleblower complaints. ([The New York Times](#))
- Two administration officials said Trump and Vice President Mike Pence separately told Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp that they approved of his plan to allow some businesses to reopen in his state, a day before Trump publicly criticized the idea. Trump's reversal

reportedly came after his health advisers reviewed Kemp's plan and persuaded the president that the Republican governor was risking further spread of coronavirus. (The Associated Press)

## Chart Review

Is Biden Gaining Older Voters, and Losing Young Ones?  
The New York Times

### Shifts in Support Since 2016, Based on Demographics

Change in Democratic margin in pre-election polls of registered voters.

Group	2020 margin	2016 margin	Change
Over all	6 49-44	5 46-41	1
White	-11 41-52	-13 37-51	2
White, college grad.	15 55-40	12 50-38	3
White, no college	-29 32-61	-29 30-58	0
Nonwhite	45 68-23	50 67-18	-5
Men	-8 42-50	-5 40-46	-3
Women	19 56-37	14 51-37	5
18 to 34	17 52-35	19 49-31	-2
65 and older	10 52-43	-5 44-49	15

## Events Calendar (All Times Local)

**04/24/2020**

Washington, D.C., mayor participates in Economic Club of Washington online event

10:00 am

British ambassador to the U.S. participates in Politico online event

2:30 pm

**04/28/2020**

Anthony Fauci participates in Economic Club of Washington online event

10:00 am

[View full calendar](#)

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# Morning Consult Debuts Daily Consumer Confidence Tracking Data

As the coronavirus outbreak continues to upend global markets and roil businesses, Morning Consult is committed to delivering daily economic data on how consumer confidence is shifting in these economically uncertain times.

Recently, we debuted our newest product, Morning Consult Economic Intelligence: Global Consumer Confidence, the most robust data set on consumer confidence available today.

[Click here](#) to learn more or speak to one of our specialists.

## General

2020 Could Reimagine Conventions, but Democratic Chairs See Value in Tradition

**Eli Yokley, Morning Consult**

With the Democratic Party forced to reassess whether to hold its national nominating convention in person this year, at least one of the party's prominent strategists expressed hopes that the changes to traditional campaigning accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic would also bring the end of the national conventions. "Burn it to the ground," Lis Smith, the former senior adviser to Pete Buttigieg's 2020 campaign, said on Twitter earlier this month.

Financial Aid to Struggling States Is Next Big Congressional Battle

**Carl Hulse, The New York Times**

With congressional approval of the latest emergency pandemic measure sealed on Thursday, the focus is quickly shifting to an escalating battle over whether Congress will provide hundreds of billions of dollars to states staggering under the costs of the coronavirus outbreak. Anxious governors on the front lines of battling the pandemic have been clamoring for more federal help, saying their budgets are being stretched to the breaking point and their revenues are collapsing as they pour resources into health care while their economies are shut down.

Supreme Court Expands Conditions for Deporting Lawful Immigrants With Criminal Records  
**Jess Bravin, The Wall Street Journal**

The Supreme Court widened the grounds for deporting lawful immigrants with criminal records in a Thursday ruling. The court split 5-4 along ideological lines, with conservatives in the majority, in interpreting a 1996 law laying out the conditions for deportation.

Top Dem Operative David Brock Accused of Illegally Profiting From His Political Empire by Conservative Group  
**Lachlan Markay and Lachlan Cartwright, The Daily Beast**

A conservative group has filed complaints with the IRS accusing leading liberal activist David Brock of illegally profiting from the vast network of groups he has built within the Democratic Party's infrastructure. The complaints, which were filed by the Patriots Foundation, a right-leaning nonprofit, and reviewed by The Daily Beast, detail a series of transactions that, the group says, show the injection of money from a tax-exempt group Brock founded into a private, for-profit news business that he owns.

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## **White House & Administration**

Trump set to sign bill with nearly \$500B more in virus aid  
**Andrew Taylor and Alan Fram, The Associated Press**

President Donald Trump will be holding a signing ceremony Friday for a bill providing a nearly \$500 billion infusion of coronavirus spending, rushing new relief to employers and hospitals buckling under the strain of a pandemic that has claimed almost 50,000 American lives and one in six U.S. jobs. The measure passed Congress almost unanimously Thursday, but the lopsided tally belies a potentially bumpier path ahead as battle lines are being formed for much more ambitious future legislation that may prove far more difficult to maneuver through Congress.

"Really Want to Flood NY and NJ": Internal Documents Reveal Team Trump's Chloroquine Master Plan  
**Katherine Eban, Vanity Fair**

On the afternoon of Saturday, April 4, President Trump stood at the White House podium and escalated his marketing blitz on behalf of hydroxychloroquine, hyping the old malaria drug's alleged promise in treating COVID-19, as well as his administration's success in acquiring huge amounts of it. "We have millions and millions of doses of it-29

million to be exact," he said, as the official tally of COVID-19 cases in the U.S. topped 260,000 and governors across the country pleaded for federal support to acquire tests, ventilators, and protective gear for health care workers.

Trump administration considers leveraging emergency coronavirus loan to force Postal Service changes

**Jacob Bogage and Lisa Rein, The Washington Post**

The Treasury Department is considering taking unprecedented control over key operations of the U.S. Postal Service by imposing tough terms on an emergency coronavirus loan from Congress, which would fulfill President Trump's longtime goal of changing how the service does business, according to two people familiar with the matter. Officials working under Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who must approve the \$10 billion loan, have told senior officials at the USPS in recent weeks that he could use the loan as leverage to give the administration influence over how much the agency charges for delivering packages and how it manages its finances, according to the two people, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the talks are preliminary.

Trump owes tens of millions to the Bank of China - and the loan is due soon

**Marc Caputo et al., Politico**

Donald Trump is warning "China will own the United States" if Joe Biden is elected president. But Trump himself is tens of millions of dollars in debt to China: In 2012, his real estate partner refinanced one of Trump's most prized New York buildings for almost \$1 billion.

Kudlow: Trump plans injection of tax cuts to cure coronavirus-ravaged economy

**David M. Drucker, The Washington Examiner**

Chief White House Economic Adviser Larry Kudlow said President Trump is planning another round of tax cuts as part of a comprehensive fiscal blueprint to resuscitate an economy ravaged by the coronavirus. Kudlow spoke Thursday during a campaign conference call organized by former U.S. Ambassador to Japan Bill Hagerty, a Republican and Trump ally running for Senate in Tennessee.

U.S. to give aid to Greenland, open consulate in bid to counter Russia and China

**Carol Morello, The Washington Post**

The United States will open a consulate in Greenland and give \$12 million in development aid to the Arctic island, which President Trump mused

about buying from Denmark last year. Danish and U.S. officials jointly announced the financial and diplomatic package Thursday, in what the Trump administration characterized as an effort to counter growing Russian and Chinese interest in the Arctic.

New HHS spokesman made racist comments about Chinese people in now-deleted tweets

**Andrew Kaczynski et al., CNN**

The new spokesman for the Department of Health and Human Services in a series of now-deleted tweets made racist and derogatory comments about Chinese people, said Democrats wanted the coronavirus to kill millions of people and accused the media of intentionally creating panic around the pandemic to hurt President Donald Trump. Michael Caputo, a longtime New York Republican political operative who worked on Trump's 2016 presidential campaign, was appointed last week as Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs at HHS, a prominent communications role at the department which serves a central role in the federal government's response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Supreme Court rejects Trump administration's view on key aspect of Clean Water Act

**Robert Barnes, The Washington Post**

The Supreme Court on Thursday rejected the Trump administration's reading of a key part of the Clean Water Act as creating an "obvious loophole" in its enforcement, and gave a partial win to environmentalists in a case from Hawaii. The court ruled 6 to 3 that a wastewater treatment plant in Hawaii could not avoid provisions of the act, which regulates the release of pollutants into rivers, lakes and seas, by pumping the pollutants first into groundwater, from which they eventually reach the ocean.

Inside Trump's obsession with Iranian gunboats

**Jonathan Swan, Axios**

President Trump's declaration about directing the Navy to "shoot down and destroy" Iranian gunboats brings to a head his years of urging military leaders to get tougher on Iranian harassment at sea. Now - unlike in the days when James Mattis ran the Defense Department and often ignored what he viewed as intemperate orders from Trump - the president faces no meaningful resistance from his national security team.

Mnuchin Weighs Lending Program for Struggling Oil Companies

**Saleha Mohsin, Bloomberg**

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said he's considering the creation of a government lending program for U.S. oil companies, which are looking for federal aid as they cope with a devastating plunge in prices. "One of the components we're looking at is providing a lending facility for the industry," Mnuchin said in a Bloomberg News interview on Thursday.

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## Senate

Mitch McConnell takes a risk igniting firestorm with governors over COVID-19 aid

**Phillip M. Bailey, Louisville Courier Journal**

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell drew the wrath of New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and other officials Thursday for suggesting that states file for bankruptcy rather than seek more federal funds to combat the coronavirus pandemic. The Kentucky Republican, speaking on a conservative radio program, referred to the calls for more money as "blue state bailouts" while criticizing generous public pensions.

Romney, Sinema request CDC develop real-time reporting method: US is 'behind the curve'

**Justine Coleman, The Hill**

Sens. Mitt Romney (R-Utah) and Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.) requested the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) develop a method of real-time national reporting of coronavirus cases, saying they worry the U.S. is "behind the curve." The two senators submitted a letter to CDC Director Robert Redfield asking the federal agency to modernize its reporting capabilities, saying its current "significant" efforts "may not be enough to equip us to respond as fast as is required."

Elizabeth Warren's oldest brother dies of coronavirus in Oklahoma

**Jess Bidgood, The Boston Globe**

Donald Reed Herring, the oldest brother of Senator Elizabeth Warren, died on Tuesday night in Norman, Okla., about three weeks after testing positive for coronavirus. Herring, a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, was 86.

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## House



### House passes resolution creating coronavirus oversight committee

**Ursula Perano, Axios**

The House voted along party lines on Thursday in favor of establishing a select committee to oversee the federal government's response to the novel coronavirus. The committee, chaired by House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.), will have subpoena power and broad authority to investigate how the Trump administration uses the trillions of dollars in coronavirus relief allocated by Congress.

### Maxine Waters says her sister is dying of coronavirus

**Allison Gordon, CNN**

Rep. Maxine Waters, a California Democrat and chairwoman of the influential House Financial Services Committee, said Thursday that her sister is dying of coronavirus in a hospital in St Louis, Missouri. "I'm going to take a moment to dedicate this legislation to my dear sister who is dying in a hospital in St. Louis, Missouri right now, infected by the coronavirus," Waters said on the House floor ahead of a vote on a package worth more than \$480 billion in Covid-19 response.

### House Republicans anger Democrats by refusing to wear protective masks

**Steven Nelson, New York Post**

Republican members of Congress were noticeably reluctant to wear masks on the House floor Thursday, sparking a sharp debate with Democrats, who readily accepted the federal guidance. As lawmakers gathered for a morning debate on creating a coronavirus stimulus oversight committee, the GOP side of the chamber largely left their mouths and noses uncovered, while some Democrats, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, dropped their coverings while speaking.

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## **2020**

### Biden says he thinks Trump will try to delay the November election

**Phil Helsel and Marianna Sotomayor, NBC News**

Joe Biden said Thursday that he believes President Donald Trump will try and delay the November election. "Mark my words, I think he is going to try to kick back the election somehow, come up with some rationale why

it can't be held," the former vice president and apparent Democratic presidential nominee said during an online fundraiser.

**Trump's poor poll numbers trigger GOP alarms over November**  
**Alex Isenstadt, Politico**

Senior Republicans and President Donald Trump's campaign are wrestling with how to best position him for November as the coronavirus poses a grave threat to his reelection. With Trump's poll figures sagging in key battleground states six months out from the election, the Republican National Committee has launched a massive effort to reach some 20 million swing voters to make an affirmative case for his performance.

**Larry Summers Advising Biden Campaign on Economic Recovery**  
**Jennifer Epstein, Bloomberg**

Former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers is advising Joe Biden's presidential campaign on economic policy, including its plans to revive the U.S. economy after the coronavirus pandemic, according to five people familiar with his involvement. The Obama and Clinton administration veteran's role will likely roil progressives who view his past work on the 2009 recovery as too favorable to big banks.

**State lawmaker files ethics complaint against Doug Collins**  
**Madelaine Pisani, National Journal**

Georgia Republican state legislator filed a complaint to the Office of Congressional Ethics on Thursday, accusing Republican Rep. Doug Collins of using House floor footage in campaign ads and calling for an investigation. "His ongoing, flagrant use of House floor footage in campaign advertisements and solicitations is a clear violation of House Ethics rules and Federal law," state Rep. David Clark wrote in a letter to OCE Chairman David Skaggs and members of the board.

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## States

**'Complete disbelief': Governors blindside front-line staff with abrupt reopening plans**  
**Isaac Stanley-Becker and Rachel Weiner, The Washington Post**

Governors preparing to roll back restrictions put in place to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus are in some cases acting without the input and against the wishes of their own medical and emergency

management staff. Georgia's Republican governor, Brian Kemp, announced he would let tattoo parlors, hair salons and bowling alleys reopen without receiving guidance from the panel of doctors tapped to advise him and without giving advance notice to regional health departments responsible for carrying out his orders, according to physicians and state officials.

Nursing Homes Ask States For Immunity From Civil Suits  
Amid COVID-19

**Ina Jaffe, NPR News**

The people most vulnerable to the coronavirus are older adults with underlying health conditions. And that perfectly describes the residents of nursing homes.

Mail delays during coronavirus outbreak hurting Ohio election,  
Secretary of State Frank LaRose says

**Rick Rouan, The Columbus Dispatch**

Slower-than-expected mail delivery could upend Ohio's ongoing primary election, which is being conducted almost entirely by mail. First-class mail that normally would take one to three days for delivery now is taking as many as seven to nine days, Secretary of State Frank LaRose said Thursday in a letter to Ohio's congressional delegation.

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## **Advocacy**

Chamber of Commerce president: PPP 2.0 won't be enough

**Ursula Perano, Axios**

Chamber of Commerce president Suzanne Clark told Axios on Thursday that Congress' replenishment of the Paycheck Protection Program loan fund will not be enough to sustain small businesses through the coronavirus pandemic. The PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) is meant to help small businesses weather the toll of closures and economic pain from the coronavirus restrictions.

Trump Donor Hired Trump-Tied Lobbyists, Then Raked In  
Coronavirus Relief Cash

**Lachlan Markay, The Daily Beast**

In late March, real estate investment firm Ashford Inc. was on the verge of financial ruin. But it had an ace in the hole: a pair of D.C. lobbying firms stacked with Trump fundraisers and White House alumni.

### How a tea party-linked group plans to turbocharge lockdown protests

**Tina Nguyen, Politico**

The Convention of States, an activist network with tea party origins, did not originate the coronavirus lockdown protests across the country. But it's got a plan to take them to the next level.

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## **Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives**

### Solving 'the Last Mile' so Hungry People Can Eat Will Be an Issue That Outlasts Coronavirus

**Dan Greenleaf, Morning Consult**

America's most vulnerable populations - particularly the poor, the sick and the elderly - faced a daily struggle to get food even before COVID-19. Now their numbers and needs are surging due to the economic freeze even as the virus adds a whole series of logistical challenges around food supply that our society is ill-prepared to meet.

### The first modern pandemic

**Bill Gates, GatesNotes**

The coronavirus pandemic pits all of humanity against the virus. The damage to health, wealth, and well-being has already been enormous.

### 'Paycheck Protection' Is Killing Restaurants

**Chip Roy and Emily Williams Knight, The Wall Street Journal**

The relief package moving through Congress this week might end up better remembered for how many restaurants it puts out of business than for the money it added to save them. For the past six weeks, we've been on the phone with restaurant owners in cities and towns across Texas.

### Did America Learn Anything From the Last Economic Crisis?

**Neil Irwin, The New York Times**

Those who do not remember history are condemned to repeat it. Even when that history is only a decade old, evidently. The global financial crisis, the deep recession it caused, and the weak recovery that followed have produced plenty of lessons about helping the economy escape from a period of trauma.

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# Research Reports and Polling

## Harvard Youth Poll: Spring 2020

### **Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics**

A new national poll of America's 18- to 29- year-olds by the Institute of Politics (IOP) at Harvard Kennedy School finds that former Vice President Joe Biden significantly leads President Donald Trump all young Americans (+23), and his advantage among likely voters (+30) is comparable to what Senator Bernie Sanders would have enjoyed at the top of the Democratic ticket. Concern about the Coronavirus and health care, replaced the economy and environment (Fall 2019), as the issues of most significant national concern when young Americans were asked in an open-ended question.

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